

SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

An in person interview was held August 12, 2008. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103, and the distinguishing features of the subject application were discussed.

In particular, the subject application is distinguished over the prior art of record by a number of independent features:

1. The combiner of the subject application signals the power sources of the successful operation of the combiner. This allows the power sources to recognize that they are in a high power load, allowing for certain functionality as described at paragraph 0079 of the originally filed application.
2. The combiner of the subject application signals the powered device of the availability of high power, or only of low power. The powered device is operative in a mode responsive to the signal from the combiner. This contrasts with Yoneda (US 203/0218384) where the load determines how much power is to be supplied, turning on one or more DC/DC converters as required by the load.
3. In the absence of successful high power combining, comparing the received power signal to a reference, and supplying low power derived from one of the power signals responsive to the comparing.

It was agreed that the above points, exemplified in claims 18, 26, 34 and 44 were allowable over the art of record. It was further agreed that claim 24, if amended to include the language similar to claim 26 would be allowable.